GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1360
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
SUPPLY OF SUBSTANDARD RICE UNDER ANTYODAYA YOJANA
KUMUDINI PATNAIK

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice provided to Orissa under `Antyodaya` `annapuran` and `Food for Work` schemes is of poor quality;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Government of Orrisa have requested the Union Government to initiateremedial steps in this regard and have also asked for supply of rice procured from the State itself;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have initiated any steps in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI PRADHAN)

(a): No, Sir. Only fair average quality rice free from insect infestation and conforming to the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act standards are beng supplied to Orissa under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes including Antyodaya Anna Yojana, Annapurna and Food-for-Work schemes.

(b): Does ot arise.

(c): While the Government of Orissa has not made any complaint regarding the quality of rice, it has requested the Union Government to allow to utilise the stocks available with in the State for Food-for-Work programme in order to decongest Food Corporation of India (FCI)`s godowns in the State to facilitate procurement operations during Kharif Marketing Season 2001-2002.

(d)&(e): The Government has advised the FCI to issue rice stocks to the State Government for TPDS and other schemes from the stocks available in Orissa itself.